

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 044144
ORIGIN AF-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIG-01 MMO-01 /007 R

66011

DRAFTED BY AF/I:SMERCURIO

APPROVED BY AF/I:SMERCURIO

-----282200 079466 /70

P 282126Z FEB 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO OAU COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

XMT AMEMBASSY LOME

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 044144

FOL RPT LOME 0474 ACTION SECSTATE 23 FEB 77 QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOME 0474

DEPT PASS OAU COLLECTIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, OAU

SUBJECT: MULTI-LATERAL AFFAIRS: OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING,
LOME FEB. 21-28

REF: STATE 032906

1. CEREMONIAL OPENING TOOK PLACE AFTERNOON OF FEBRUARY 21.
PRINCIPAL SPEECHES DELIVERED BY PRES. EYADEMA AS HOST AND BY
MAURITIAN FOREIGN MINISTER HAROLD WALTER AS OUTGOING PRESIDENT
OF COUNCIL. THE MINISTERS OF CHAD, EGYPT AND BOTSWANA ALSO MADE
BRIEF INTERVENTIONS AS UNOFFICIAL REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES THANKING
EYADEMA FOR HOSTING THE MEETING.

2. WALTER'S SPEECH WAS A REPORT ON HIS SIX MONTHS TERM OF
OFFICE AND ALLOWED HIM TO STRIKE OFT-REPEATED AFRICAN THEMES SUCH
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 044144

AS CONDEMNATION OF MINORITY RULE, APARTHEID, ARROGANCE OF DEVELOPED
WORLD TOWARDS LDCS, INTRANSIGENCE OF ISRAEL, NEED FOR AFRICAN
UNITY, ETC. WALTER NOTED KISSINGER CONTACTS ON NAMIBIA AND ZIMBABWE
HAD ONCE APPEARED PROMISING BUT NOW THAT RESULTS ARE IN, THEY
CAN BE SEEN ONLY AS A MANEUVER TO GAIN TIME. EYADEMA'S SPEECH
(SUMMARY REPORTED SEPARATELY THROUGH USIS CHANNELS) COVERED SIMILAR
LIST OF AFRICAN CONCERNS. HIS REFERENCE TO U.S. INITIATIVE IN

RHODESIA, HOWEVER, WAS INDIRECT AND MORE CHARITABLE: "DESPITE RECENT PRESSURES, THE RACIST REGIME HAS NOT LOOSENED ITS GRIP AND SLIPS AWAY FROM ALL NEGOTIATIONS."

3. AGENDA LISTS 30 ITEMS. TWENTY ITEMS ARE EITHER PROCEDURAL OR DEAL WITH FINANCIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL MATTERS. TWO ITEMS ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION CONCERN THE REPORTS OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON THE CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN MINISTERS OF INDUSTRY AND ON THE RESULTS OF THE SECOND ALL AFRICAN TRADE FAIR. FIVE ITEMS DEAL WITH LEGAL-POLITICAL MATTERS:

A) REPORT ON THE INTERNATIONAL STATUS OF SOUTH AFRICA (THIS IS THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE WHICH MET IN OCTOBER TO ADVISE THE OAU OF SOUTH AFRICA'S STATUS IN INTERNATIONAL LAW. THE MAJORITY CONCLUSION ADVISES AGAINST LEGAL CHALLENGE OF SOUTH AFRICA AND URGES LIBERATION THROUGH ARMED STRUGGLE. THE MINORITY REPORTS CONDEMNING SOUTH AFRICAN VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS WERE SUBMITTED BY SENEGAL AND GUINEA, AND BY THE EGYPTIAN CHAIRMAN.)

B) REPORT ON THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR THE LIBERATION OF AFRICAN (REVISED DOCUMENT NOT YET READY FOR DISTRIBUTION)

C) REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND PALESTINE.

D) REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON THE COMOROS

E) CONSIDERATION OF AFRICAN CANDIDATES FOR UN SPECIALIZED CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 044144

AGENCIES.

3. TWO ITEMS DEAL WITH SCIENTIFIC SUBJECTS--DROUGHT AND NATURAL DISASTERS, AND A REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON LOS. (IN HIS OPENING SPEECH, WALTER ANNOUNCED THAT THE OAU MEETING ON LOS WOULD TAKE PLACE IN LAGOS PRIOR TO THE RENEWED LOS CONFERENCE).

4. ONE ITEM LISTS FOUR TOPICS WHICH HAVE BEEN PROPOSED FOR DISCUSSION BY MEMBER STATES:

A) DRAFT CONVENTION ON MERCENARIES BY ANGOLA

B) REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE BY LESOTHO

C) PROPOSED DISCUSSION OF SUMMIT ON AFRICAN-ARAB COOPERATION BY LIBYA

D) BENIN PROPOSAL FOR EXTRAORDINARY COM MEETING ON "IMPERIALIST ARMED AGGRESSION" OF JANUARY 16.

5. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS SUDANESE DELEGATION HAS WITHDRAWN ITS REQUEST THAT COM DISCUSS THE REMOVAL OF OAU HEADQUARTERS FROM

ADDIS ON THE GROUNDS THAT THIS SUBJECT IS BEYOND THE COMPETENCE OF THE COM AND MUST BE DISCUSSED AT THE SUMMIT IN LIBREVILLE.

6. MEETINGS FEBRUARY 22 CONCERNED EXCLUSIVELY WITH ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS. HOWEVER, UGANDAN DELEGATION AT FIRST CLOSED SESSION MADE STATEMENT ABOUT RECENT COUP ATTEMPT AGAINST GOVERNMENT AND REGRETTED ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF THREE WITNESSES. THIS PROMPTED GHANAIA COMMISSIONER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS FELLI TO EXPRESS CONCERN THAT AFRICANS SHOULD TAKE BETTER CARE OF PRISONERS. RECENT INCIDENTS DEALING WITH PRISONERS COULD WELL WEAKEN THE CREDIBILITY OF AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS IN WORLD OPINION. TANZANIAN DELEGATE DENIED ANY INVOLVEMENT OF HIS GOVERNMENT IN ANTI-UGANDAN PLOTTING.

7. ALSO IN CLOSED SESSION OAU SECGEN ETEKI MBOUMOUA SPOKE IN FAVOR OF EXCLUSIVE RECOGNITION OF PATRIOTIC FRONT IN RHODESIA. HIS INTERVENTION IS UNDERSTOOD TO HAVE TRIGGERED PROTESTS FROM FLOOR, INCLUDING LENGTHY REBUTTAL BY GAMBIA DELEGATE.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 044144

8. MUGABE AND SITOLE ARE IN LOME. BRITISH DIPLOMAT FROM ACCRA COVERING CONFERENCE HAS INSTRUCTIONS TO SEEK OUT BOTH AND DENY EUROPEAN AND SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS REPORTS THAT SOUTH AFRICA WILL PARTICIPATE IN U.S.-BRITISH CONSULTATIONS ON RHODESIA THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON.

9. LOME COM IS NOW SCHEDULED TO CONTINUE TO FEBRUARY 28TH.
PALMER

UNQUOTE VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING AGENDA, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE044144
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: SMERCURIO
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770069-0070
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977021/aaaaabkr.tel
Line Count: 150
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: fe3e1fbf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 32906
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3230065
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MULTI-LATERAL AFFAIRS: OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING, LOME FEB. 21-28
TAGS: PFOR, PORG, XA, OAU
To: OAU COLLECTIVE LOME
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/fe3e1fbf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009